

1. In a method of using a standard deck of fifty two cards to play a game, comprising the steps of:

dealing cards to a player:

providing an opportunity for a player to make a wager on a rank of a Poker hand formed from said dealt cards;

dealing out community cards;

providing an opportunity for a player to make a wager on a rank of a Poker hand formed from said dealt cards augmented by said community cards; and

settling said wagers.

2. In the method of claim 1 wherein said player has an option of making a three card Poker wager and said player is dealt three cards to form a three card poker hand and four community cards are dealt out, comprising the additional steps of:

giving a player an option of making a five card Poker wager and a seven card Poker wager;

augmenting said player's three cards with two of said community cards to form a five card Stud Poker hand; and

augmenting said player's three cards with said four community cards to form a seven card Stud Poker hand.

3. In the method of claim 2 wherein said step of settling comprises the steps of:

making a three card payout to said player based upon a rank of said three card Poker hand;

making a five card payout to said player based upon a rank of said five card Poker hand; and

making a seven card payout to said player based upon a rank of said seven card Poker hand.

4. In the method of claim 2 wherein said community cards are dealt face down.

5. In the method of claim 2 wherein said community cards are dealt face up.

6. In the method of claim 2 wherein a joker is used as a wild card in playing the game.

7. In the method of claim 2 comprising the additional step of making a bonus payout to said player when a Poker hand has a rank higher than a known rank.

8. In the method of claim 1 wherein said player has an option of making a five card Poker wager and said player is dealt five cards to form a five card poker hand, and two community cards are dealt out face down, comprising the additional steps of:

5 a player of making a seven card wager; and  
augmenting said five cards with said two community cards to form a seven card Stud Poker hand.

9. The method of claim 8 comprising the additional steps of:  
making a five card payout to said player based upon a rank of said five card Poker hand; and

5 making a seven card payout to said player based upon a rank of  
a selected five cards of said seven card hand.

10. In the method of claim 8, comprising the additional step of permitting said player to increase said seven card Stud Poker wager prior to either of said community cards being turned face up.

11. In the method of claim 8, comprising the additional step of permitting said player to rescind said seven card wager upon forfeiture of a portion of said seven card Stud Poker wager.

12. In the method of claim 8 wherein a joker is used as a wild card in playing the game.

13. In the method of claim 8 comprising the additional step of making a bonus payout to said player when a Poker hand has a rank higher than a known rank.

14. In a method of using a standard deck of fifty two cards to play a game, comprising the steps of:

a player making a seven card Stud Poker wager;

dealing four cards to said player;

5 dealing out three community cards face down;

giving said player an option of making a three card Stud poker wager after said four cards are dealt;

turning said community cards face up, a three card Stud Poker hand being formed by said community cards and a seven card Stud  
10 Poker hand being formed by said four cards augmented by said community cards;

making a three card payout to said player based upon the rank of said three card hand; and

making a seven card payout to said player based upon a rank of  
15 a selected five cards of said seven card hand.

15. In the method of claim 14 wherein a joker is used as a wild card in playing the game.

16. In the method of claim 14 comprising the additional step of making a bonus payout to said player when a Poker hand has a rank higher than a known rank.

17. In the method of playing a Poker game on a gaming machine that stores signal representations of images of fifty two cards of a standard deck of cards, comprising the steps of:

dealing cards to a player

5 giving a player an option of making a payment representative of a three card wager, a five card wager and a seven card wager;

causing a video screen of the gaming machine to provide an image of each of seven cards that are face down;

10 said player causing said video screen to replace three of said face down images with images of three cards that are face up, thereby providing an image of a three card Stud Poker hand, face up and images of four cards that are face down;

making a three card payout to said player based upon a rank of said three card hand, thereby settling said three card wager;

15 said player causing images of two of said four face down cards to be replaced by images of two cards that are face up, thereby providing an image of a five card Stud Poker hand and images of two cards that are face down;

20 making a five card payout to said player based upon a rank of said five card hand, thereby settling said five card wager;

said player causing images of said two face down cards to be replaced by images of two cards that are face up, thereby providing images of seven cards face up that form a seven card hand; and

25 making a seven card payout to said player based upon a rank of five cards of said seven card hand.

18. In the method of claim 17 wherein said gaming machine stores a signal representation of a joker which is a wild card.

19. In the method of playing a Poker game on a gaming machine that stores signal representations of images of fifty two cards of a standard deck of cards, comprising the steps of:

giving a player an option of making a payment representative of a five card wager and a seven card wager;

causing a video screen of the gaming machine to provide initial images of five cards face up;

said player causing said video screen to replace any of said initial images with images of cards that are face up, thereby providing an image of a five card Draw Poker hand;

making a five card payout to said player based upon the rank of said five card hand;

providing images of two additional cards face up, thereby providing an image of a seven card Stud Poker hand; and

making a seven card payout to said player based upon a rank of five cards of said seven card hand.

20. In the method of claim 19 wherein said gaming machine stores a signal representation of a joker which is a wild card.